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## **Maternal and Infant Health Assessment (MIHA)**

### **General Description**

The Maternal and Infant Health Assessment, is a population-based survey of women with a recent live birth in California that collects information about maternal experiences, attitudes and behaviors before, during and shortly after pregnancy. Topics include: health status, dental care during pregnancy, nutrition, weight, health insurance, service utilization and content, breastfeeding, infant sleep, pregnancy intention, family planning, intimate partner violence, substance use, hardships, and income. Beginning with the data set for 2012, data concerning dental care during pregnancy was also collected.

### **Background**

MIHA is a collaborative effort of the Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) and the Women, Infant and Children (WIC) Programs of the California Department of Public Health and the Center on Social Disparities in Health at the University of California, San Francisco. The survey provides essential information not available from other sources to guide health policies and programs for California women, infants and families. Results have been used by state and local programs, and other MCAH stakeholders to monitor health outcomes and identify emerging health issues

### **Data Collection**

Data are collected by mail with telephone follow up to non-respondents. The questionnaire covers a wide range of maternal and infant experiences, and maternal attitudes and behaviors before, during and shortly after pregnancy.

The MIHA questionnaire and methods are similar to those used by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in conducting the multi-state Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS).<sup>1</sup> Questionnaires used in the MIHA can be found at <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/data/surveys/MIHA/Pages/mihaquestionnaires.aspx>

### **Data Coverage**

“MIHA participants are English- or Spanish-speaking women aged 15 years and older who have had a live birth. From 1999 through 2009, approximately 3,500 women participated each year. Beginning in 2010 the number of MIHA participants increased to nearly 7,000, which allows data to be available for the 20 counties with the largest number of births. Starting in 2013, the sampling plan was expanded to include the top 35 counties with the largest number of births. MIHA data are weighted to represent all eligible women in California with a live birth during each survey year. MIHA has maintained a response rate of approximately 70%.<sup>1</sup> More information about the methods used to conduct the assessment, including maps of the counties sampled, can be found at <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/data/surveys/MIHA/Pages/mihamethods.aspx>

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**Accessibility**

Data for 2010, 2011, and 2012 are currently available and accessible to the public.

**Data Link**

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/data/surveys/MIHA/Pages/MaternalandInfantHealthAssessment%28MIHA%29survey.aspx>

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